## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-07** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-06 AGR-05 L-02 H-01 COME-00

TAR-01 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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R 232154Z JAN 75 FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5476

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PASS AGRICULTURE

EO 11652 NA TAGS EAGR CA SUBJ GOC MEAT INSPECTION RE AUSTRALIAN BEEF TRANSITING VIA NYC

REF STATE 014806

- 1. AS BEST WE CAN DETERMINE GOC MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS DO NOT RPT NOT REQUIRE THAT VESSEL CALL AT CANADIAN PORTS. WHEN AGATTACHE QUERIED HETHERINGTON ON THIS POINT RESPONSE WAS VAGUE BUT HE CONCLUDED, QUOTE THEY HAVE TO CALL AT A CANADIAN PORT, END QUOTE. HETHERINGTON HAD MUCH MORE TO SAY ON THE PROBLEM FACED BY CANADIAN PORTS WHERE LARGE SUMS HAD BEEN SPENT TO HANDLE CONTAINERIZED FREIGHT, MEAT INSPECTORS STATIONED AT PORTS. BUT SHIPS NOT CALLING AT PORTS.
- 2. COINCIDENTALLY, SUBJECT CAME UP IN CONVERSATION BETWEEN HETHERINGTON AND EMBASSY OFFICIAL AT SOCIAL FUNCTION. IN ADDITION TO REPEATING COMMENTS HE HAD MADE TO AGATTACHE RE HEAVY FINANCIAL COMMITMENT OF CANADIAN PORTS TO THIS TRADE, HETHERINGTON COMMENTED THAT FARRELL IS NEWCOMER TO AUSTRALIA/ CANADA MEAT TRADE, IS UNWILLING TO CALL AT CANADIAN PORTS BECAUSE IT "WOULD LOSE ITS U.S. SUBSIDY" (SUBSIDY IS FACTOR WHICH MAKES FARRELL'S PARTICIPATION IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TRADE ECONOMIC, ACCORDING TO HETHERINGTON), AND HAS INDICATED

THAT THIS BUSINESS IS SO MARGINAL IT IS NOT WORTH ARGUING ABOUT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT REGULATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT POSSIBILITIES, HETHERINGTON SAID GOC MEAT INSPECTORS CAN TURN BACK ANY SHIPMENT IF THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO SATISFY THEMSELVES REGARDING CONDITIONS (ROUTING OF VESSEL, ETC.) UNDER WHICH MEAT HAD BEEN SHIPPED FROM COUNTRY OF ORIGIN TO CANADA.

3. J.V. QUINN, COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR, AUSTRALIAN HIGH
COMMISSION, STATED THAT THE 1960 AUSTRALIAN/CANADIAN TRADE
AGREEMENT REQUIRED THAT SHIPS CARRYING AUSTRALIAN CARGO
CALL AT CANADIAN PORTS. STRIKES OFTEN MADE THIS DIFFICULT
AND THIS REQUIREMENT WAS WAIVED IN OCTOBER 1973.
QUINN CONFIRMS THAT NOTHING IN GOC MEAT INSPECTION LAW OR
REGULATION REQUIRES VESSEL CALL AT CANADIAN PORT. AT
PRESENT GOC/GOA UNDERSTANDING IS THAT AUSTRALIAN SHIPMENTS
BE MADE DIRECT WHENEVER POSSIBLE WITH INDIRECT SHIPMENTS
ONLY UNDER UNUSUAL CONDITIONS. QUINN BELIEVES SHIPPING
PATTERNS ARE CHANGING WHICH MAY MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO SHIP
DIRECT

GOA UNDER PRESSURE FROM ITC/GOC TO SHIP MEAT DIRECT. ITC
UNDER PRESSURE FROM MIN. TRANSPORT. HOWEVER, ITC HAS BEEN
DISTURBED IN PAST BY HETHERINGTON'S ROLE IN ATTEMPTING SOLVE
TRADE PROBLEM UNDER REGULATORY GUISE. IN THIS RESPECT,
EMBASSY AND AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION HAVE KEEN INTEREST IN
TEXT OF HETHERINGTON LETTER TO FARRELL LINES. WOULD APPRECIATE
RECEIVING COPY OR TEXT OF HETHERINGTON LETTER.
PORTER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: FOOD INSPECTION, PORT FACILITIES, IMPORT CONTROLS, MEATS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OTTAWA00269

Document Number: 1975OTTAWA00269
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750026-0620

From: OTTAWA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750126/aaaaaxdc.tel Line Count: 89

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 STATE 014806 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 06 MAY 2003

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <07 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: GOC MEAT INSPECTION RE AUSTRALIAN BEEF TRANSITING VIA NYC TAGS: EAGR, CA
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006